

Joint Budget Committee

April 2, 2004

Attendance: Kit Boesch, Human Services; Kerry Eagan, County Board; Corrie Keilty, Mayor's Office; Robin Mahoney, United Way; Annette McRoy, City Council; Sandy Rupp, United Way; Ray Stevens, County Board; and Marc Wullschleger, Urban Development.

Ray called the meeting to order. The approval of the minutes was delayed until a quorum was established.

Kit gave the Human Services Report for February and March. She highlighted the following:

The Gambling Study – Millions of dollars are spent in this state on gambling. Kit stated the study for this year is almost complete. Kit noted there is basically no difference from the prior studies' indicators but it will lay the ground work for further studies. Marc added that the competition of this study is probably good timing with it being debated in the Legislature. Ray requested the study be completed and available by April 15th.

Kit noted that the SICA grant (substance abuse dollars from the state) will be around \$250,000 for each of three years if received. She noted that about 30 community members are working on this collaboration. Kit also stated that the SICA and the Drug Free Communities grant total over one million dollars.

The Hub (Transitional Services Network for youth and young adults ages 16-24) is progressing well and has a \$250,000 budget. The Hub has received \$227,000 in grant assistance at this time. It will target youth who are homeless, dropped out of school; unemployed and give them some direction. Also with the Legislature looking at changes to the Age of Majority, we could anticipate many former State Wards.

The Power of Prevention Conference in Dallas was a great conference and had great ideas. Kit stated she has been sharing much information and materials distributed at that conference with different agencies in the community. Kit stated she contact Mike Heavican, U.S. Attorney General, about the Drug Education for Youth program.

DayWatch continues to struggle and there appears to be little financial responsibility at the Board level. The plan is to support DayWatch through December with United Way/JBC. By that time hopefully the Mental Health Reform Bill will have passed and Mary O'Shea can put into place a day support program to take care of the DayWatch population. We don't know if Mary is willing to do the payee/case management. Kit believes it is Mary's devotion to the clients that she wants to pursue this and the DayWatch Board is excited about her taking over. Many of the O'Shea clients are also DayWatch clients. The effect of DayWatch cutting operating hours has seen an increase in other places—The Gathering Place, Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, the Downtown Senior Center, and the Hispanic Community Center. Kit stated there is lots of work to be done and much depends on the Legislature and Medicaid. Kit wanted the JBC to be prepared in the event the timeline is not met.

Kit met with Mona Bearskin (Director) and Peter Katt (Board) of the Indian Center. It was noted that Mona showed up at the Mayor's meeting and a board member was present at the cultural meetings since that meeting.

Kit mentioned her Human Services Budget, Special Projects, include: Low Income Transportation (all City); 211 (City/County); and Harvest Project (City/County). She stated these are important projects and she will suggest supporting for one to two years and then they will have to become self sufficient on their own.

On the Juvenile Justice side, JAIBG funds have been cut. This year cut over \$40,000. In 2004, the State will receive \$1.4 million/\$188,000 County. In 2005, State will receive only \$400,000. JAIBG funds our Graduated Sanctions Programs.

Kit distributed the Families First and Foremost - Evaluation Report - Executive Summary abbreviated version. This summary shows that F3 is making a difference in the lives of kids. F3 is on their last year of funding. Next year will be their no cost extension expiring August 31, 2005. The F3 grant was a cost match with the State for seven years. The State saved money on State Wards and we are hoping will reinvest that money into Lancaster County programs. Evaluations show that the first six months kids make dramatic improvements along with expulsions down and discipline up. It was also noted that F3 has become the poster child for this program all over the country.

Ray stated he attend the Funders Group meeting. He stated the collaborations and coalitions presentation was good.

Robin reported that United Way is working with the FCC to get 211 here in Lincoln. 211 is a phone line of Human Service agencies. Lincoln is trying to build on what Omaha already has. She stated the cost is \$42,000. United Way (\$25,000) and Human Services (\$10,000) will be leaving \$35,000 to be raised for the following year. Robin stated it is a year round marketing tool to let people know that 211 is out there. She also noted that the Blue Pages and Information and Referral are good in Lincoln. July 1st is the target date to have it running. The advantage to using 211 is it is easy to monitor. Robin also said that Crete and Seward would like to be included in the Lincoln/Lancaster service area but have no money.

Robin stated that the United Way/JBC process had 90 applications: 40 – United Way; 35 – Joint, and 15 JBC only. Robin thanked Kit for chairing the Family Violence team review.

Robin stated that Bonnie Coffey (Women's Commission) and Robyn Henderson (CSI-Lincoln) are promoting "Success by Six", the logo that is used by United Way of America giving girls visibility on early care. Licensing guidelines for this grant looks like Lincoln qualifies. This grant is offering 21 million dollars. A short discussion on coalitions and collaborations was held. It was concluded that gaps are being addressed and agencies are participating at the table.

Kit mentioned that the JBC Allocations meeting will be held June 4, 2004, 8:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. The notebooks should be distributed by May 1, 2004, and the committee will have one month to review. Kit pointed out that the Living Wage has been included in these grants. Kit also mentioned that Review Teams have reviewed these applications in depth.

Ray complimented Urban Development for stepping up to assist the Habitat for Humanity. They made lots available at lower down payments.

Kit stated that Bill Caldwell, Interim Director, for the Lincoln Interfaith Council has stepped in and has begun making connections with funders (see attached letter). The Council needs to create an active Board. The Board now has the ability to learn and partake in some Board training. It is in the process of seeking a director, and is doing as well as can be expected at this time.

Corrie stated that the City has been meeting with the Salvation Army staff and board regarding the possibility of applying for a very special opportunity. Joan B. Kroc, widow of the founder of McDonald's restaurants, passed away in October 2003. She left a donation to the Salvation Army of \$1.5 billion to be used to create new multi-service community centers across the country. Some believe Lincoln is well positioned to provide the kind of multi-faceted center Mrs. Kroc wanted. With that in mind, the Salvation Army is seeking partners to help create the best possible vision for an application for a center for Lincoln. It is clear in the application process that Lincoln must come together to demonstrate genuine need and cooperative relationships with private and public leaders. The Salvation Army is in the process of providing presentations outlining the requirements of this application (due September 30th) and reaching out to any possible partners. Input into the needs this center might serve and whether or not agencies wish to be a formal partner in the application are questions that must be answered soon. The Salvation Army will be meeting with cultural centers and the Human Services Federation Executive Committee. What is needed—services, in kind, land, buildings, cash, etc. The Salvation Army will be the "landlord" but can't run the programs. They are going to the experts and inquiring as to the programs needed and those experts will run the programs. Corrie stated the vision is the kind of services—recreation centers and human services agencies—that will make neighborhoods become more efficient. This is a great opportunity and will reach out for families that can't afford to be part of programs currently available.

Kit noted the Harvest Project handout—minutes of the meeting on March 30, 2004, and the CASA annual report. Kit stated the juvenile judges love their CASA volunteers and currently they have more kids than volunteers.

Marc handed out the Action Plan FY 2004 for HUD Entitlement Programs. He instructed members if they had any questions, comments, suggestions to contact Urban Development. The plan will be final in July after the City Council approves it.

Ray asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting. They were no objections, minutes approved.